

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method on a device for tracking at least one item, the method comprising:

determining a location of the device;

determining whether the location of the device is within a predefined area by comparing the location to a specification of the predefined area;

determining whether ~~the~~ at least one item is within a predetermined range of the device; and

storing, in response to determining that if the at least one item is not within the predetermined range and that if the location of the device is not within the predefined area, ~~storing~~ the location of the device.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21, wherein the device is any one of a mobile telephone, a mobile pager, wireless messaging device, and a mobile communication system.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

~~if the device is operating in active mode,~~ performing a notification indicating that the at least one item is not within the range.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
determining whether the current time is within a predefined time period; and
storing, in response to determining that if the current time is not within the
predefined time period and that the at least one item is not within the predetermined
range, the location of the device sounding an alarm indicating that the at least one item
is not within the range.
6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the device communicates
with the at least one item using any one of:
the IEEE 802.15.4 communications standard;
the IEEE 802.11(b) communications standard; and
the Bluetooth communications standard;
and wherein the determining whether at least one item is within a predetermined
range of the device comprises receiving a signal from the at least one item.
7. (Currently Amended) A method on a device for tracking at least one item, the
method comprising:
determining a location of the device;
detecting that the at least one item has come within a range of the device;
determining that the device is moving; and
determining that the at least one item is moving within the range of the device
while the device is moving.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7, further comprising:
determining whether the at least one item has moved within the range of the device for a predefined period of time; and
setting a variable, in response to determining that if the at least one item has moved within the range of the device for the predefined period of time, ~~setting a variable~~ indicating that the at least one item is associated to the device.
9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7, further comprising:
determining whether the at least one item has moved within the range of the device for while the device has moved a predefined distance; and
setting a variable, in response to determining that if the at least one item has moved within the range of the device for the predefined distance, ~~setting a variable~~ indicating that the at least one item is attached to the device.
10. (Canceled)
11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 407, wherein the device is any one of a mobile telephone, a mobile pager and a mobile communication system.
12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein the device communicates with the at least one item using any one of:
the IEEE 802.15.4 communications standard;
the IEEE 802.11(b) communications standard; and
the Bluetooth communications standard.

and wherein the determining that the at least one item has come within a range of the device comprises receiving a signal communicated from the at least one item.

13. (Currently Amended) A device for tracking at least one item, comprising:
- a location module for determining a location of ~~at least one~~ a device;
 - a receiver connected to the device for receiving signals from the at least one item;
 - location information for a predefined area;
 - a processor for determining whether the location of the ~~at least one~~ device is within the predefined area by comparing the location to the location information for the predefined area and determining whether the at least one item is within a range of the device; and
 - a storage module for storing the location of the device ~~if in response to determining that the at least one item is not within the range and if that~~ the location of the device is not within the predefined area.

- 14 (Original) The device of claim 13, wherein the device is any one of a mobile telephone, a mobile pager and a mobile communication system.

15. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 13, further comprising:
- an alarm for indicating that the at least one item is not within the range, ~~if the device is operating in active mode.~~

16. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 14, wherein the device communicates with the at least one item using any one of:

the IEEE 802.15.4 communications standard;

the IEEE 802.11(b) communications standard; and

the Bluetooth communications standard;

and wherein the processor determines whether the at least one item is within a range of the device due to the receiver receiving a signal from the at least one item.

17. (Currently Amended) A system for tracking items, comprising:

at least one item, each item including:

a unique identifier;

a transmitter for transmitting the unique identifier; and

a coupling element for coupling the item to an object; and

a device including:

a location module for determining a location of the device;

a receiver connected to the device for receiving signals from the at least one item;

location information for a predefined area;

a processor for determining whether the location of the device is within the predefined area by comparing the location to the location information for the predefined area and determining whether the at least one item is within a range of the device; and

a storage module for storing the location of the device if in response to determining that the at least one item is not within the range and if that the

location of the device is not within the predefined area.

18. (Canceled).

19. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 17, the device further comprising:
an alarm for indicating that the at least one item is not within the range, ~~if the device is operating in active mode.~~

20. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 17, wherein the device communicates with the at least one item using any one of:

the IEEE 802.15.4 communications standard;

the IEEE 802.11(b) communications standard; and

the Bluetooth communications standard;

and wherein the processor determines whether the at least one item is within a range of the device due to the receiver receiving a signal from the at least one item.

21. (Currently Amended) A system for tracking items, comprising:

at least one item, each item including:

a unique identifier;

a transmitter for transmitting the unique identifier; and

a coupling element for coupling the item to an object; and

at least one device, each device including:

a location module for determining a location of the device;

a receiver connected to the device for receiving signals from the at least

one item;

location information for a predefined area;

a processor for determining whether the location of the device is within the predefined area by comparing the location to the location information for the predefined area and determining whether the at least one item is within a range of the device; and

a storage module for storing the location of the device if in response to determining that the at least one item is not within the range and if that the location of the device is not within the predefined area.

22. (Original) The system of claim 21, wherein the at least one device is any one of a mobile telephone, a mobile pager, a messaging device, and a mobile communication system.

23. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 21, wherein each of the at least one device further comprises:

an alarm for indicating that the at least one item is not within the range, ~~if the device is operating in active mode.~~

24. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 21, wherein the processor of each of the at least one device, in response to a user request, further retrieves location information from the storage module in at least one of the at least one device, so as to find the last stored location of the at least one item.

25. (New) The method of claim 4, further comprising determining if the at least one item has not been left in the predefined area, and

wherein performing the notification is performed in response to determining that the at least one item has not been left in the predefined area.

26. (New) The method of claim 4, wherein performing the notification is selectively performed based upon a status indicator.

27. (New) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
retrieving the stored location of the device; and
communicating the location amongst at least one remote device.